

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 COA-02 INT-08 SMI-01 DRC-01 RSC-01

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R 161431Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 004

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ZA

SUBJECT: WILDLIFE CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

REF: STATE 75329

1. DEPARTMENT QUITE CORRECT IN ASSUMING THERE IS RISK OF POSSIBLE DISCLOSURE TO GRZ AUTHORITIES IF CASE REFERRED TO LOCAL LAW OFFICE. THIS COULD CERTAINLY ADVERSELY AFFECT MOST DISCREET EFFORT IN WHICH BALSON NOW ENGAGED TO OBTAIN REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT AND FIND GRZ FAVOR IN SHIFTING SITE OF WCI OPERATION WITHIN ZAMBIA.

2. WE DISCUSSED THIS VIEW WITH DNCON WHO FULLY AGREED. IN FACT, AHBEIS MOST RELUCTANT TO MAKE ANY APPROACH TO LOCAL ATTORNEY REGARDING POSSIBLE LEGAL RIGHTS UNTIL ALL OTHER EFFORTS TOWARD NEW ARRANGEMENTS MAY HAVE FAILED.

3. AT LUNCH TODAY WHEN AMBASSADOR MENTIONED TO MINISTER OF LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM THAT SULLIVAN MIGHT WISH TO RETURN TO ZAMBIA TO REASSESS SITUATION, MULENGA SUGGESTED EMBASSY SHOULD ENCOURAGE HIS TO DO SO. ADDED SULLIVAN SHOULD NOT RPT NOT GET IMPRESSION WCI BEING "LURED AWAY"; ON

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CONTRARY, HOPED IT WOULD STAY AND HINTED AT POSSIBILITY

OF GRZ OFFER OF ANOTHER SITE BUT WAS NOT SPECIFIC,
INDICATING AUTHORITY TO OFFER NOT EXCLUSIVELY HIS.

4. BALSON REQUESTS FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE PASSED TO

BARRY SULLIVAN: QUOTE CABLE RECEIVED AND FULLY
UNDERSTOOD. WILL COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS FOR MEETING
WITH PRESIDENT AND MINISTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
NORTH LUANGWA STILL VERY WET AND GRASS HIGH. PHILIP
BERRY AND NORMAN CAC RETURNING LUSAKA NEXT WEEK,
SO WILL HAVE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, RE LUANGWA.
DO YOU WISH TO VISIT GAME PARKS AND OKAVANGO TOGETHER
WITH ME AND WHAT DO YOU WISH ME TO LOOK OUT FOR WHILST
ON TRIP? HAVE GIVEN ALL STAFF ONE MONTH'S NOTICE AND
HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAND ZADENZ PARK OVER TO
GOVERNMENT. WHEN DO YOU EXPECT TO COME OVER?

ESPECIALLY IF YOU WOULD VISIT NORTH LUANGWA PRIOR
TO DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNMENT HERE. HAVE HELD TWO
MEETINGS WITH JOHN CLARKE RE NEW AREA. HE IS NOT TOO
KEEN ON NORTH LUANGWA BUT HAS SUGGESTED BANGWELU
COMPLEX WHICH IS A GOOD AREA. BUT YOU MUST COME OVER
FOR DISCUSSIONS. REGARDS. ERIC. UNQUOTE.
WILKOWSKI

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